Government is aware of a news item titled "Trucks roll on Rs. 22000 - cr 'grease' road" published in The Hindustan Times on 2nd February, 2007 wherein it has been stated that the Indian chapter of Transparency International has conducted a survey which, *inter-alia*, alleged that the truckers are paying bribes to the enforcement authorities at the check posts. The details of the survey report are not available with this Department.

(b) Regulation of motor vehicle trafffic rests with the State Governments. The State Governments have been advised to take appropriate steps to plug loop holes in the enforcement system to eliminate the alleged corruption in the road transport sector.

(c) No, Sir.

Construction works under NHDP-II

†1887. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that approval to National Highways Development Project (NHDP) phase-II, wherein a length of 6,706 kilometres road construction and extension was to be undertaken, had been accorded in 2003;

(b) if not, the facts thereof and whether the project was targeted to be finally completed by December, 2007;

(c) if not, the facts thereof; and

(d) the length of road in terms of kilometres whose construction had been completed by December, 2006 under this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir. National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-II was approved by the Government in December, 2003.

(b) and (c) Substantial completion is targeted by December, 2008.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) 29 kilometre length of road had been completed by December, 2006 under this project.

National Cruise Shipping Policy

1888. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to launch National Cruise Shipping Policy to promote tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether under this project, the ports are proposed to be upgraded; and

(d) the details of development of cruise shipping along the Orissa coast under this project?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) In order to promote cruise tourism, a Cruise Shipping Policy is under consideration of the Government. The objective of the policy is to make India a major cruise destination by popularizing cruise shipping, facilitating creation of requisite infrastructure and creating a conducive environment.

NHs in hilly areas

†1889. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme to keep the National Highways passing through hilly areas, free from landslides and other accidents;

(b) whether there is any plan to implement the safety arrangement on NHs-55 and 31A; and

(c) whether there is any arrangement of mobile ambulances for these hilly areas?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.